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In re Application of:

Assigned to:

Entitled:

Application Serial No.:

09/500,473

Filing Date:

February 9, 2000

Group Art Unit:

1764

Examiner:

Unknown

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449, the Applicants submit herewith copies of the following U.S. and foreign patents of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) which provides for the timely filing of an Information Disclosure Statement before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

The undersigned hereby certified that each item of information contained in the Supplemental

Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application. Specifically, the European Search Report is in connection with the

PCT Application No. PCT/US00/03993 (WO 00/48477) and has an International Filing Date of 14

February, 2000 (International Publication Date of 24 August 2000). In the interest of full disclosure

to the PTO, the undersigned also includes a copy of the aforementioned European Search report for

the Examiner's review.

The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as

a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is

considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material exists. Further, the filing of this

Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in the entirety by return of a copy of the enclosed form, completed by the Examiner, is respectfully

requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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